THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (*a*) & (*b*) A statement[a] is laid on the table of the House.

The House will remember that a few days ago there were a number of supplementary questions on this subject and I gave an exhaustive reply. The steps that have been taken up till now are found in the statement laid on the table of the House. Now two clerks have been sanctioned for the purpose and I assure the House that the work relating to the payment of increments will be expedited."

SRI E. T. KUNHAN :—" 1947 നു ശേഷം ഹരിജൻ വെൽഫെയർ സ്കൂളുകളിലെ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർക്ക് ഇൻക്രിമെന്റ് കൊടുത്തിട്ടില്ല. അതു കഴിയുന്ന വേഗത്തിൽ കൊടുക്കാൻ നടപടി എടുക്കുമോ ?"

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" I am grateful to the Hon. Minister for taking so many steps to see that the teachers are paid in time. But in spite of all these ' glorious ' steps, the teachers are not paid in time. May I request him to give a categorical assurance in view of the long delay caused in the matter, that increments in their salary will be paid to teachers before 31st March 1955, that is, before the end of the official year?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Sir, I do not claim to have made any glorious attempts. I can only claim that serious attempts have been made and I can only say this much that the Government are attempting to see that the arrears are paid as quickly as possible."

New college for the Nilgiris

* 1056 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to open new colleges during the next academic year?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, the proposal to open a Second Grade Arts College in the Nilgiris district is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI M. P. SUBRAMANYAM :—" Sir, may I know what is the policy of the Government with regard to starting of new colleges in the State? Will the Government discourage the starting of new colleges in places where there is already concentration of educational institutions? Will they encourage private philanthropists and institutions to start colleges in places where there are no first grade or second-grade colleges at present?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, if any private agency comes forward for the purpose of opening colleges, we would give all the assistance provided under the rules."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, may I know whether this consideration to open a college in the Nilgiris district would fructify at least before the academic year starts?"

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 425 infra.

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I hope so, Sir."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" Sir, have the Government received any representation from the St. Joseph's authorities at Cuddalore for the opening of a second grade college? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The main question is about the opening of a new college in the Nilgiris district."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" Sir, the main question reads as if it applies to the whole State."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, the Government have no proposal to open a new college in South Arcot district but, if any private agencies come forward, assistance will certainly be given."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Sir, giving the question the amplified meaning that has been pressed for by certain other hon. Members, may I ask whether alongside the idea of starting a new college in the Nilgiris district, the Government have under their consideration the question of stabilising the existing college at Tellicherry and whether the idea of starting a building programme for this college is under the consideration of Government lest the University should disaffiliate it? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, this is always under the consideration of the Government."

Pest attack on food crops in Kumbakonam

* 1057 Q.—SRI M. P. SUBRAMANYAM (on behalf of Sri K. R. Sambandam) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that many acres of cultivated land in Kumbakonam taluk, Tanjore district, were affected by pests in November and December 1954; and

(b) if so, the preventive and remedial measures taken by the Government?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) The Government received reports from the Director of Agriculture that there was an outbreak of foot-rot and root-rot diseases in Kumbakonam division and that the area affected was about 5,000 acres.

" (b) The Director of Agriculture was asked to issue necessary instructions to the District Agricultural Officer, Kumbakonam, for taking prompt remedial measures in the affected areas and to see that the pests did not spread to other neighbouring areas. Necessary arrangements were also made to keep adequate stocks of pesticides and insecticides in all the depots in the affected areas. The Kumbakonam division as a whole was declared as pest-affected area and pesticides were sold at a concessional rate of 50 per cent of the sale price.